

CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:

providing a television program on a first channel of an interactive video casting system;
including information with the television program on the first channel to link the first channel to a second channel based on subject matter shown in the television program;
filtering the information to exclude coupons from merchants not listed on a participating merchant list;
providing a notification to a user of an expiration date of a coupon separate from the expiration date printed on the coupon; and
responsive to a command received from a user input device, using the information to link the first channel to the second channel, and subsequently providing content on the second channel to allow a user to initiate a transaction related to a coupon on the second channel, wherein the second channel is viewable and navigable by the user; and
automatically generating a reminder of an upcoming coupon expiration date.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the interactive video casting system comprises an interactive television system and wherein the information included with the television program on the first channel includes triggers that announce availability of the coupon on the second channel.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein linking the first channel to the second channel includes one of generating an overlay to present the content on the second channel over at least a portion of the television program, generating a picture-in-picture arrangement to concurrently present the content on the second channel with the television program on the first channel, or tuning from the first channel to the second channel to replace presentation of the television program with presentation of the content.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the linking of the first channel to the second channel is capable of being performed based upon user-related data and wherein the user-related data can be automatically obtained by receiving an identifier of a client terminal of the user.

6-7 (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising obtaining from the user a preference for a date to be notified of the expiration date of the coupon.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the notification is capable of being presented on a channel different from the second channel.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the transaction related to the coupon includes searching for one or more coupons based on one or more of a user-selected merchant category, a user-selected service category, or a user-provided keyword.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the transaction related to the coupon includes storing one or more coupons in a storage area.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the transaction related to the coupon includes sorting a group of coupons based on at least one of subject or merchant.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the transaction related to the coupon includes printing the coupon from a printing device and transferring information related to the coupon to a smart card.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the transaction related to the coupon includes redeeming the coupon.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein redeeming the coupon includes redeeming the coupon on a merchant web site.

17. (Previously presented) An article of manufacture, comprising:

a machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions to:

filter coupons available on a second channel to exclude coupons from merchants not listed on a participating merchant list;

correlate information, related to a television program on a first channel of an interactive video casting system, with data related to the filtered coupons available on the second channel;

based on a correlation result, present information related to a coupon to a client terminal; and

respond to a request received from the user in response to the information presented and allow the user to view the second channel and redeem the coupon on a channel different from the second channel.

18. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the instructions to correlate information includes instructions to correlate the information with information related to a user.

19. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 18 wherein the instructions to correlate information related to the user include instructions to automatically obtain data related to the user by processing a received identifier of the client terminal.

20. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the machine-readable medium further includes instructions stored thereon to integrate elements of a coupon channel into a television commercial sent from the interactive video casting system to the client terminal.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the machine-readable medium further includes instructions stored thereon to allow the user to receive automatically generated reminders of a coupon expiration date.

23. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the machine-readable medium further includes instructions stored thereon to allow the user to transfer coupon information to a smart card.

24. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the machine-readable medium further includes instructions stored thereon to integrate elements of a coupon channel into a television program sent from the interactive video casting system to the client terminal.

25. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein the machine-readable medium further includes instructions stored thereon to allow the user to send a coupon to an e-mail address.

26. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:

correlating information related to a television program presented on a first channel with information related to a coupon on a second channel, the information relating to the coupon on the second channel including information related to a user;

displaying the coupon to the user on the second channel if a) the information related to the coupon is consistent with information on the first channel and b) the coupon is offered by a merchant listed on a participating merchant list; and

responding to a command received from a user input device to allow the user to participate in a transaction related to the coupon displayed on the second channel.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein the information on the second channel related to the coupon includes merchant information.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the information related to the user is obtained by obtaining a set top box identifier.

30. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein the transaction related to a coupon includes printing the coupon on a printing device.

31-36 (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:

offering a coupon available from a coupon channel of an interactive video casting system, the coupon channel comprising one of a plurality of different user-viewable channels available on the interactive video casting system, wherein offering the coupon comprises excluding coupons from merchants not listed on a participating merchant list and presentation on another of the plurality of different channels of information indicative of availability of the coupon via a display screen of a client terminal in communication with the interactive video casting system, the interactive video casting system comprising a plurality of sources from which to provide coupons for the coupon channel, the offered coupon being affiliated with at least one merchant that is subscribed to the interactive video casting system and listed on the participating merchant list, wherein offering the coupon includes providing a plurality of features related to transactions that can be conducted in connection with any of the coupons available from the coupon channel;

responsive to a command received from a user input device that is in communication with the client terminal, conducting a transaction related to the offered coupon, the user input device having at least one button to send the command to the client terminal, the client terminal capable to correlate the received command with the offered coupon and to initiate the transaction subsequent to correlation of the received command with the offered coupon; and

providing an electronic notification related to the offered coupon from the interactive video casting system subsequent to conducting the transaction, the electronic notification capable of being provided to the client terminal for display on the display screen.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37 wherein the plurality of features related to transactions includes at least one of a feature to send one of the selected coupons to another user, a feature to print one of the selected coupons, a feature to save one of the selected coupons in the personal storage location, or a feature to redeem one of the selected coupons with one of the subscribed merchants.

39. (Original) The method of claim 37 wherein offering the coupon comprises offering the coupon on a channel different from the coupon channel.

40. (Original) The method of claim 37 wherein the notification is capable of being provided to a device different from the client terminal.

41. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:

offering a coupon available from a coupon channel of an interactive video casting system, the coupon channel comprising one of a plurality of different user-viewable channels available on the interactive video casting system, wherein offering the coupon includes presentation, on another of the plurality of channels via a display screen of a client terminal, of information indicative of availability of the coupon via use of triggers sent from the interactive video casting system, wherein offering the coupon includes providing a plurality of features related to transactions that can be conducted in connection with any of the coupons available from the coupon channel, and wherein offering the coupon comprises filtering the triggers to prevent offering of coupons from merchants not listed on a participating merchant list;

responsive to a command received from a user input device that is in communication with the client terminal, displaying the offered coupon on the coupon channel via the display screen, conducting a transaction related to the offered coupon, the client terminal capable to correlate the

received command with the offered coupon and to initiate the transaction subsequent to correlation of the received command with the offered coupon; and

providing an electronic notification related to the offered coupon from the interactive video casting system subsequent to conducting the transaction, the electronic notification capable of being provided to the client terminal for display on the display screen, the electronic notification further capable of being provided on one of the channels of the interactive video casting system that is different from the coupon channel.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41 wherein offering the coupon comprises offering the coupon during a television program that is presented on a channel different from the coupon channel.

43. (Original) The method of claim 41 wherein the notification is capable of being provided to a device different from the client terminal.

44. (Original) The method of Claim 41 wherein the plurality of features related to transactions includes at least one of a feature to send one of the selected coupons to another user, a feature to print one of the selected coupons, a feature to save one of the selected coupons in the personal storage location, or a feature to redeem one of the selected coupons with one of the subscribed merchants.

45-46 (Canceled)